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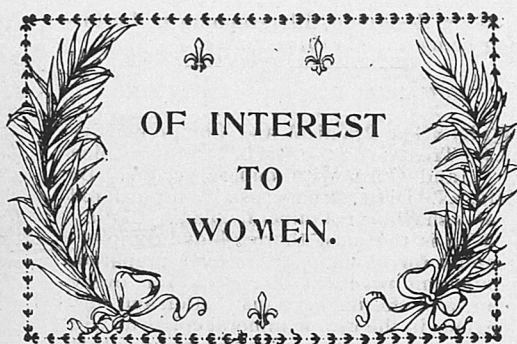
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## OF INTEREST TO WOMEN.

By THE ASSOCIATE EDITOR.

**A**S A rule, many housekeepers do not know the convenience of the small sponge in general housecleaning. A good porous sponge is all that is necessary for the cleansing of painted walls, woodwork of doors, windows and surbuses. If there is a spot hard to move, a slight rubbing of the sponge with sapolio will eradicate the dirt and leave the surface bright and cleanly.

**I**N A bathroom where there is no marble basin with running water, an excellent wash-stand can be made by the aid of two pine shelves. They should be broad and wide, and placed one above the other, at good, equal distance. In the upper, there should be an opening made just large enough to hold the china basin, while the lower serves as a shelf for various toilet accessories. Along the edge of the upper shelf a curtain of pretty Swiss-Madras muslin or lace can be hung by a gilt rod, and just above the whole affair, on the wall, can be fastened another gilt rod, which will serve as a towel-rack for this clever idea.

**T**O MAKE an inexpensive mat for a colored print, blotting-paper in rich yellow tones acts as a fine background. The opening in which the picture fits should be evenly cut, and, when finished and framed, can be hung in the strongest light and prove acceptable.

**F**OR papering walls, the salmon pink is a new departure in small apartments. If the ceilings are high, a deep frieze is used, and the ceiling proper is kalsomined in two or three different tones, to match the walls. This style is peculiarly artistic for north rooms.

**A** FINE receptacle for the keeping of tray-cloths or embroidered articles of any kind can be made of a large-sized cigar-box. To make it in good shape, line the inside and cover with satin of a rich dark green, finished with brass hinges and lock. Then decorate the whole with a con-

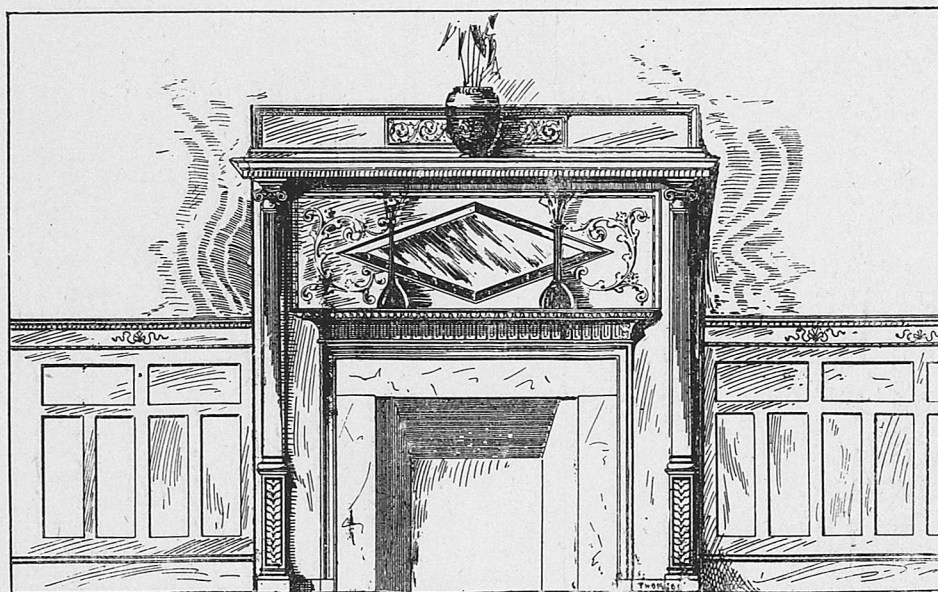
ventional burnt etching, in which flowers and ribbon-markings are added. As a window-sill adornment for a dining-room this is especially attractive.

**F**OR decorations for tables this season, tones of red, yellow and white are the colors chosen for the winter wear.

**F**OR kitchen windows, the scrim curtain still holds its own. It can be hung by a gilt rod and weekly renewed.

**I**N EVERY storeroom, just above the standing refrigerator, a shelf is absolutely necessary for the overflow of uneaten food or the storing of tender vegetables.

**T**O KEEP polished floors in good order, a broom encased in a thick canton flannel bag serves as an excellent sweeper for these boards where light dust has to be removed.



DESIGN FOR HALL MANTELS.

**F**OR paper novels, a canvas cover can be made and decorated with a dark shade of embroidery silk. It is a capital idea for a library shelf and table.

**W**OODEN spoons, of two sizes, are convenient for salads, for the serving of gravies and sauces.

**D**ENIM, when used as a floor covering, should be washed before putting together or laid. This prevents certain lines given by the broom when being swept, and a smoothness of texture is acquired if treated in this manner.

**A** NEW wine jug has appeared in the market which promises to be a boon to all lovers of cool beverages. It is of glass, and so allows the tone to be seen to advantage. By a clever device it is so arranged as to provide two compartments. The inner one is designed for cracked ice, and is closed with a glass stopper. Around it the wine is poured, and so becomes chilled without direct contact with the ice. A pretty affair for dainty luncheons.

**C**ORNER shelves add much to the coziness of a room. They should be of good length, rest on iron brackets, and then covered with some simple drapery. The upper one can serve as a mantel-shelf, the lower as a receptacle for odd volumes, and both are very ornamental.

**T**HE student lamp has always been a useful object, but hitherto could not be said to be always decorative; the latest designs combine beauty as well as service. The reservoir which occupies the familiar place in the centre has become attractive in itself, and the curves are more graceful than formerly.

**A**S NEW favors, book covers of thick leather etched with fire, trays of ooze, ornamented with yellow cowslips, and candy boxes made of tan, in which violets in their natural colors, with ribbon markings, will be among the prizes for card parties and winter dances. These receptacles for sweets are made over tin, and are finished with a silk bag and tied with violet ribbons, and filled with chocolates of different kinds.

**I**F YOUR dining-room table is a good one, polish it well for your afternoon tea. In the middle place an extra-sized centre-piece, at each end good-sized doilies. On these group small dishes of olives, almonds and the like, covered well with roses of delicate tints; in the centre, a tall rose of choice blossoms. Let your punch be made in colored glass pitchers, in which a huge bunch of mint stands up at the opening, and served in small, thin glasses. Cover your banquet

lamp with smilax and white carnations, and here and there on the board have a full-blown rose, a group of pink carnations, or a *boutonniere* of choice violets.

**S**IDE lights for low ceiling rooms, when made of bent iron, are very pleasing. They throw a mellow light, and, with iron shades, lined with a glass in some yellow or red tint, make for an apartment a decorative bit.

**P**lates with centres in which landscapes, figures and birds are the scheme for the formal dinner or noon breakfast, are extremely decorative. They come in every color by the dozen, and are considered very artistic for table purposes.

**B**LANKETS can be buttonholed with silks or worsteds, in any color preferred, and form an ornamental edge when finished.

**A** PRETTY box for a kodak is one covered with a French striped cretonne. It has a strap of the same, fastened by a presidential button.